

SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

LOCAL MARKET SURVEY

SEPTEMBER 2023

This report provides a monthly review of selected agricultural produce available at the Local Markets in Upolu and Savaii based on the price data and volume index survey. Corresponding tables are attached for ease of reference.

Key findings:

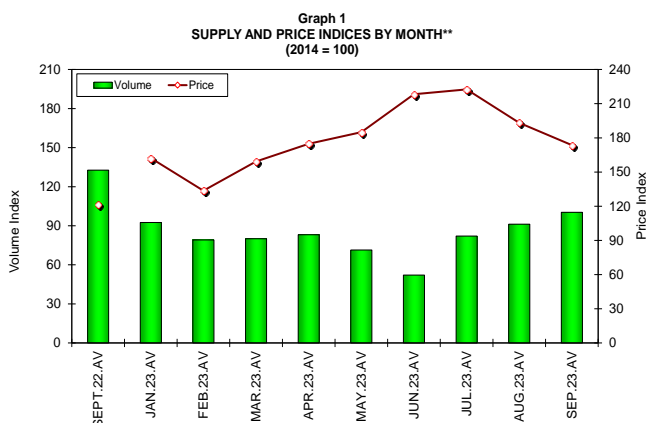
The Local Market Survey in September 2023 showed that the overall supply increased by 10 percent while average prices declined by 10 percent when compared to August 2023.

- A significant increase in the supply of most of the agricultural produce supplied to the Local Markets strongly contributed to the decline in the price index.
- The total value of supplies fell 4 percent to \$107,900 from the previous month.
- The total number of sellers increased 11 percent to 301 in September 2023 from the 271 recorded in August 2023.

Issue: 01/09/23

OVERVIEW

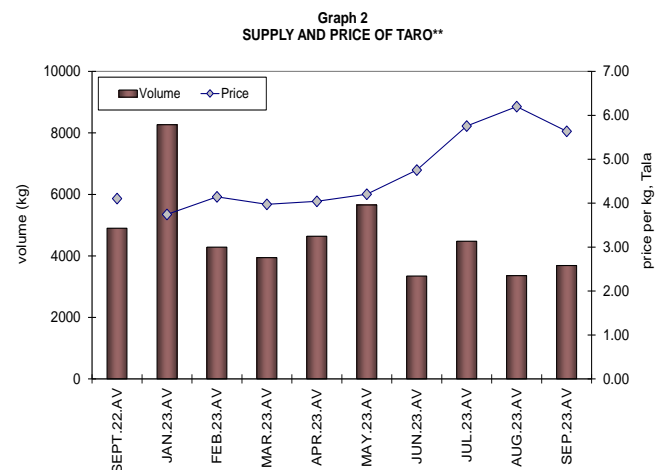
The monthly survey of Agricultural food supplies at the local markets by the Samoa Bureau of Statistics in September 2023 showed that the overall volume increased 10 percent from August 2023. This reflects the significant increases in the supply of most agricultural produce at the markets with the exception of ta'amu, breadfruit, yam, head cabbage and tomato. When compared to September 2022, current supply decreased by 24 percent. (See Graph 1 and Tables 4 & 5)



The overall price level fell 10 percent due to the increase in the overall supply of most agricultural produce with the exception of coconut and yam. However, when compared with September 2022, the current overall price level went up by 43 percent.

TARO

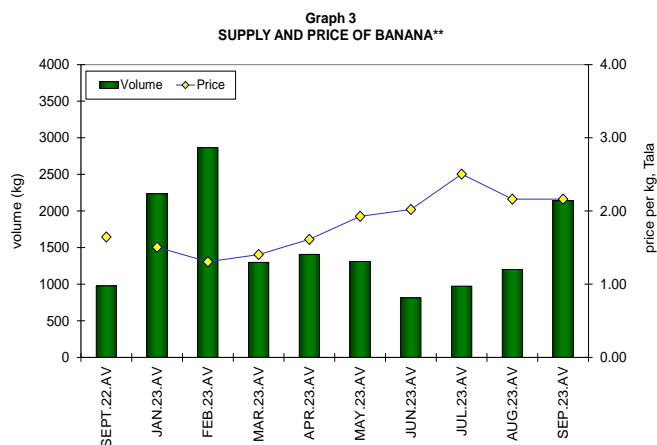
At 3,688 kilograms, the average supply of taro increased by 10 percent from the previous month leading to the decline in prices by 9 percent (to \$5.64 per kilogram). When compared to September 2022, current supply of taro declined by 25 percent while its average price rose 37 percent. (See Graph 2 and Tables 1&2)



Taro supply and prices both increased by 13 percent and 23 percent respectively in the twelve-month period ending September 2023 in comparison to the twelve-month period ending September 2022.

BANANA

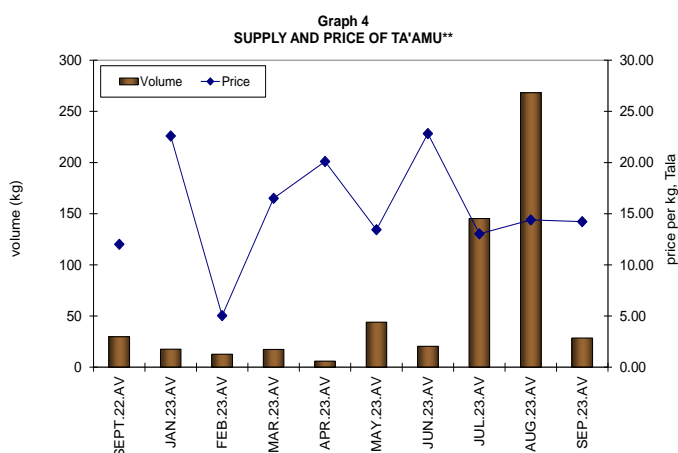
The supply of banana to the local markets in August 2023 increased 78 percent (to 2,141 kilograms) from August 2022 while its average price remained unchanged (to \$2.16 per kilogram). When compared with the same month last year, current supply of banana has more than doubled while its average price increased 32 percent. (See Graph 3 and Tables 1&2).



Annually, banana supplies slightly increased by 1 percent compared to the year ended September 2022, while its average price increased 26 percent.

TA'AMU

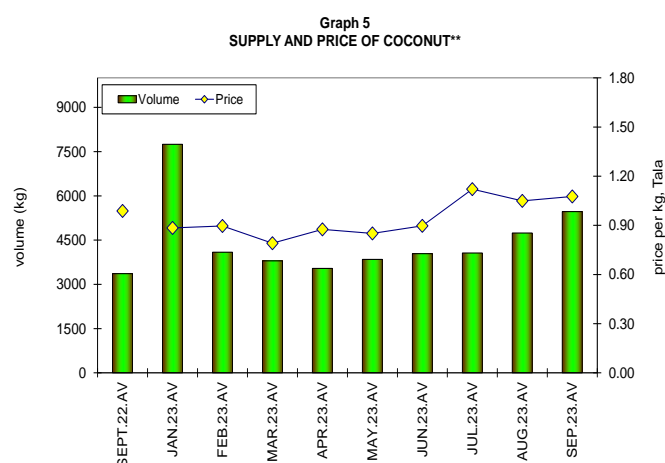
At an average of 29 kilograms, ta'amu supplied at the markets in September 2023 decreased 89 percent compared to its volume in the previous month while its average price fell 1 percent (to \$14.22 per kilogram). In comparison to the same month last year, current supply of ta'amu declined by 4 percent while its average price increased by 18 percent. (See Graph 4 and Tables 1&2)



In the year ending September 2023, volume of ta'amu supplied to the markets increased 24 percent while its price increased 97 percent in the year ending September 2022.

COCONUT

Coconut supplies at 5,467 kilograms increased by 15 percent from August 2023 while its average price increased by 3 percent (to \$1.08 per kilogram). In comparison to September 2022, current supply and average prices both increased by 63 percent and 9 percent respectively. (See Graph 5 and Tables 1&2)

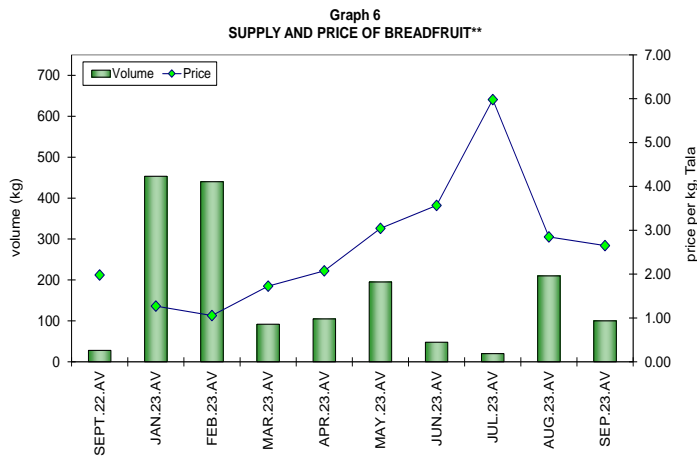


In the twelve months ending September 2023, supply of coconut increased 9 percent while its average price rose 14 percent when compared to the twelve months ending September 2022.

BREADFRUIT

The supply of breadfruit in September 2023 decreased 52 percent (to 100 kilograms) from the previous month, while its average price fell 7 percent (to \$2.65 per kilogram) due to weakened demand. When compared to September 2022, current supply of breadfruit was more than tripled while its average prices increased 34 percent. (See Graph 6 and Tables 1&2)

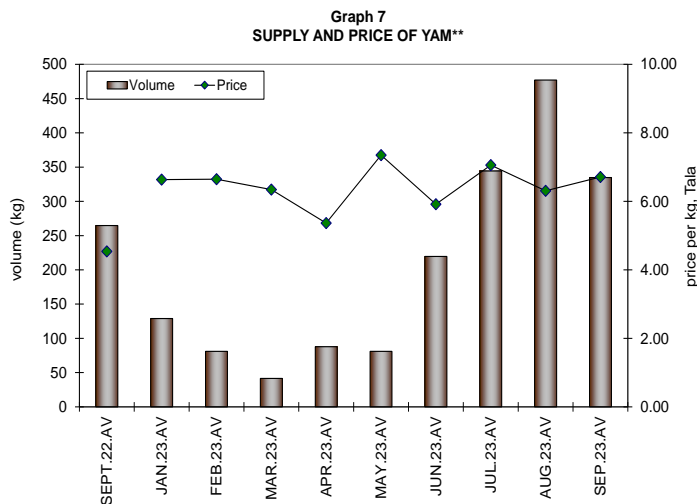
VEGETABLE PRODUCE



Annually, supply of breadfruit decreased 33 percent while average prices increased 78 percent over the year ended September 2022.

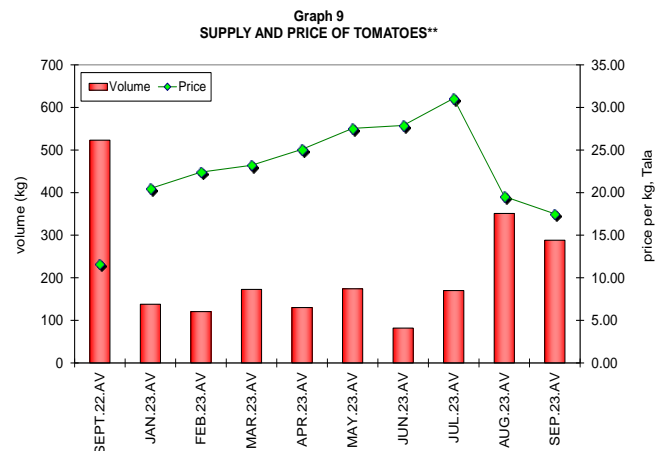
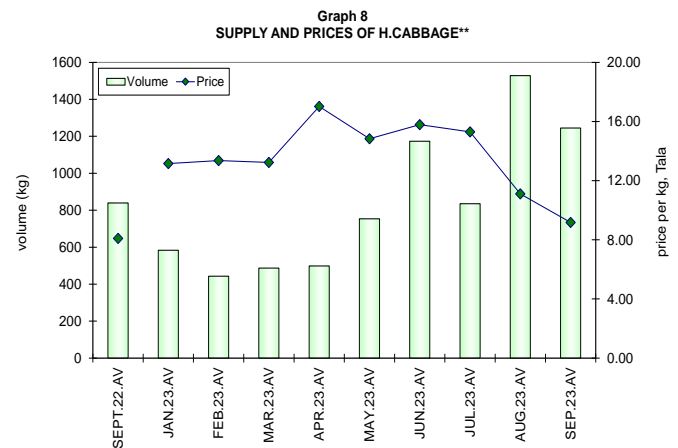
YAM

In the month under review, yam supplies decreased 30 percent (to 335 kilograms) from the previous month, while limited supply pushed its average price up 6 percent (to \$6.71 per kilogram). Current supply of yam increased 27 percent from September 2022 while its average price also increased by 48 percent. (See Graph 7 and Tables 1 & 2)



Supply of yam in the twelve months ending September 2023 increased 36 percent in comparison to the twelve months ending September 2022. Its average price rose 31 percent.

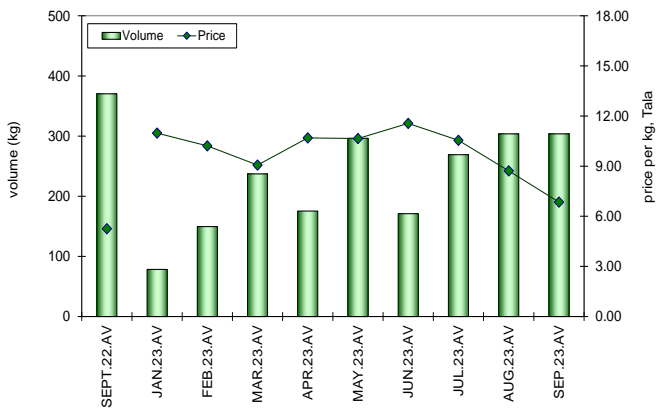
Vegetable produce supplied to the local markets in September 2023 experienced significant increases except for head cabbage and tomato which declined by 19 percent (to 1,245 kilograms) and 18 percent (to 288 kilograms) respectively. Pumpkin supply registered the largest increase of 33 percent (to 8,125 kilograms) from the previous month, followed by cucumber which increased 10 percent (to 1,090 kilograms). Supply of Chinese cabbage revealed no change when compared to the previous month. (See Graphs 8 to 12 and Tables 1 & 2)



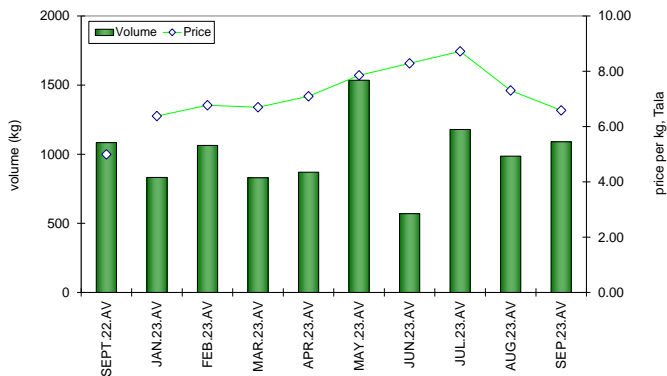
SELLERS

At 301, the average number of sellers at the local markets in September 2023 rose 11 percent from the previous month and up 8 percent when compared with the same month a year ago. (See Graphs 13 and 14 and Table 6).

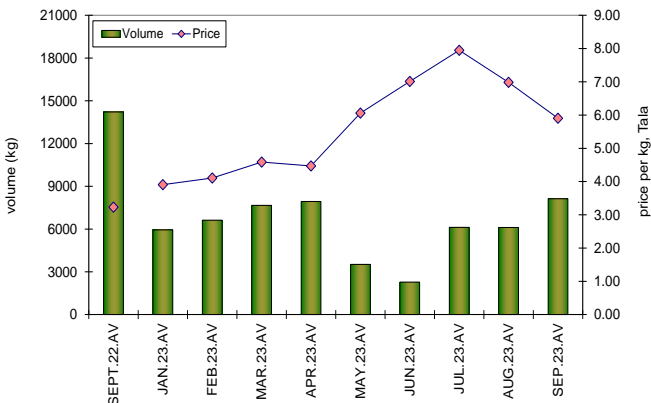
Graph 10
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF CH.CABBAGE**



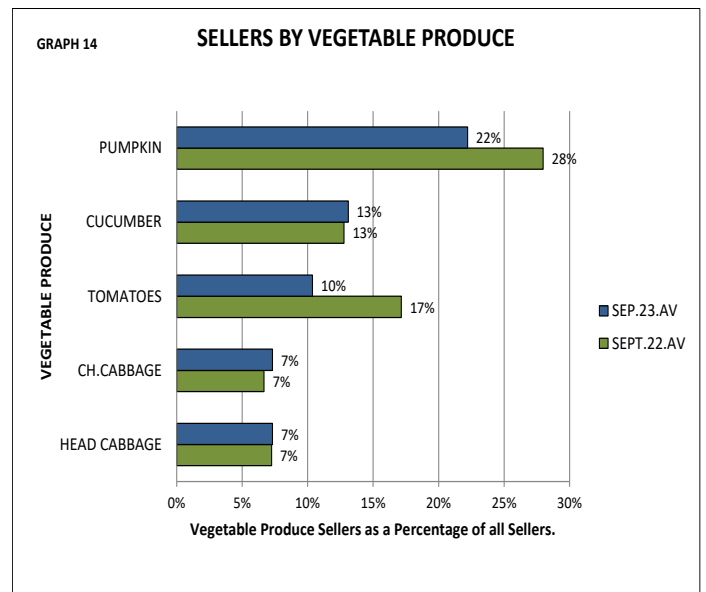
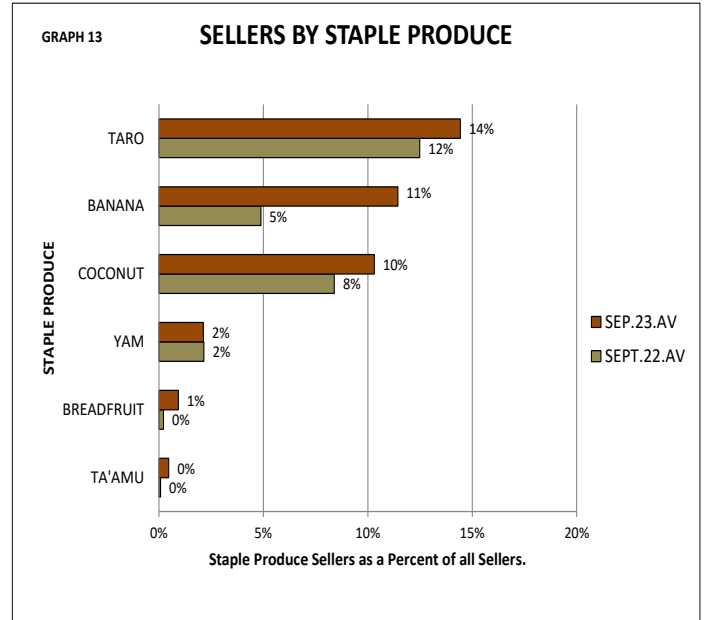
Graph 11
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF CUCUMBER**



Graph 12
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF PUMPKIN**



Following the increase in the supply of most of the vegetables available at the local markets in the month under review, average prices for all produce fell. The increases in the supply for pumpkin and cucumber have led to the decline in their average prices by 15 percent (to \$5.91 per kilogram) and 10 percent (to \$6.59 per kilogram) respectively. Average price for Chinese cabbage fell 21 percent (to \$6.85 per kilogram) followed by head cabbage and tomato prices declining 17 percent (to \$9.18 per kilogram) and 10 percent (to \$17.51 per kilogram) when compared to September 2022.

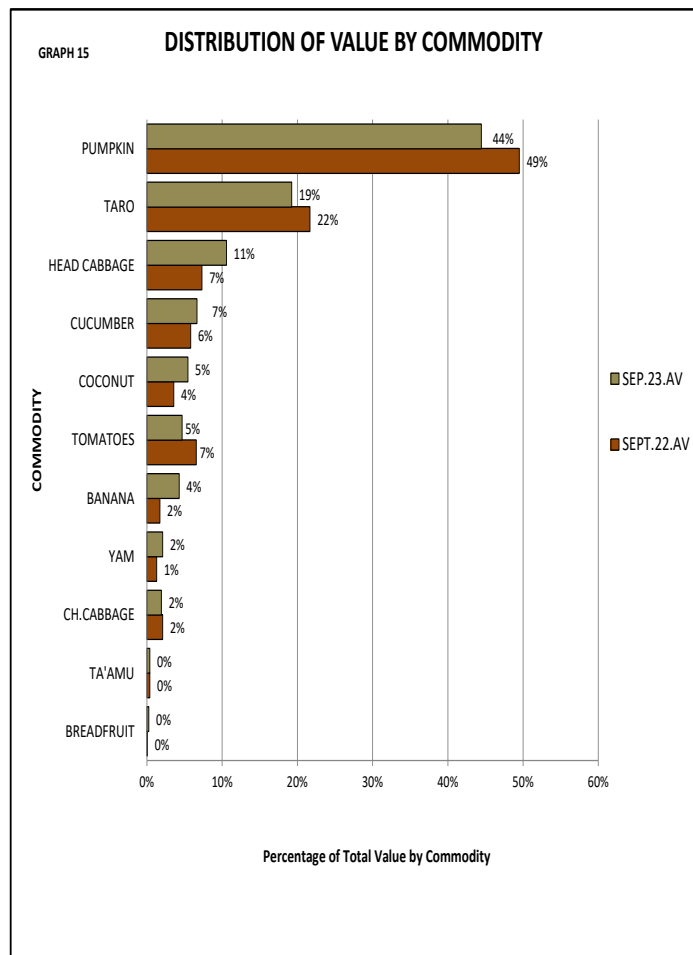


In September 2023, sellers of vegetables at 60 percent were the largest group at the local markets, increasing from the 53 percent in the previous month but were lower than the 72 percent in the same month last year.

However, staple food sellers which made up 40 percent of total sellers decreased from the 46 percent in August 2023 but were higher than the 28 percent when compared to September 2022.

VALUE OF SUPPLIES

The average value of selected produce supplied to the local markets was \$107,900 in September 2023. It declined 4 percent from the previous month but increased by 16 percent when compared to September 2022.



Coconut and tomato supplies both contributed 5 percent each to total value; with coconut shares increasing from 4 percent in the previous month and the same month a year ago, while tomato shares down from the 6 percent in August 2023 and 7 percent in September 2022. Banana supplies accounted for 4 percent, up from the 2 percent last month and the same month last year, while lower shares were recorded for yam, Chinese cabbage, ta'amu and breadfruit. (See Graph 15 & Table 3)

Pumpkin supplies contributed the most to the total value of produce supplied to the markets with a share of 44 percent in September 2023; a level that was higher than the 38 percent in the previous month but were lower than the 49 percent in the same month a year ago. Supplies of taro contributed 19 percent to total value, it remained unchanged from last month but were lower than the 22 percent in the same month a year ago. Head cabbage supplies followed with an 11 percent of total value, down from the 15 percent in August 2023 but were higher than the 7 percent when compared with September 2022. Shares of cucumber accounted for 7 percent of total value, up from the 6 percent in the previous month and the same month a year ago.

Technical Notes

The Local Market Survey measures the price and volume of selected agricultural produce from the Local Markets at **Fugalei, Taufusi, Vaitele, Lotopa, Ululoloa, Afega, Saleimoa, Savaia, Vaoala, Faatoia and Salelologa** every month. Prices for selected produce are taken from the Consumer Price Index.

*** Data shown reflects the average availability and prices of selected produce. This survey is conducted on each Thursday for rural markets on Upolu and Savaii and each Friday for urban markets on Upolu in the months under reference.*

Weights for selected produce have been revised using 2014 as the base period and have been incorporated starting from June 2016 report.

The Local Market Survey Report for October 2023 will be available on 20th November 2023.

SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

*Economic Statistics Division
FMFM II Building, Level 1
P O Box 1151
Apia, Samoa*

*Phone: (685) 62014/62015
Fax: (685) 24675
E-mail: info.stats@sbs.gov.ws
Website: www.sbs.gov.ws*

SUMMARY OF MARKET SURVEY

Table 1: Quantity Supplied (in kilograms)

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	SEPT.22.AV	JAN.23.AV	FEB.23.AV	MAR.23.AV	APR.23.AV	MAY.23.AV	JUN.23.AV	JUL.23.AV	AUG.23.AV	SEP.23.AV	Sep-23	
												% chng from prev mnth	%chng from SEP 22
TARO	7521	4901	8268	4286	3942	4639	5658	3345	4478	3358	3688	10	-25
BANANA	2642	976	2235	2865	1297	1407	1311	813	973	1202	2141	78	119
TA'AMU	816	30	18	13	17	6	44	20	145	268	29	-89	-4
COCONUT	7993	3364	7747	4090	3796	3540	3845	4042	4063	4741	5467	15	63
BREADFRUIT	186	28	453	440	92	105	195	48	20	210	100	-52	257
YAM	129	265	129	81	41	88	81	220	344	477	335	-30	27
HEAD CABBAGE	811	839	584	443	487	498	753	1173	835	1528	1245	-19	48
TOMATOES	256	523	138	121	173	130	174	82	170	351	288	-18	-45
CH.CABBAGE	129	370	78	149	237	175	296	171	269	304	304	0	-18
CUCUMBER	542	1084	832	1063	830	870	1535	570	1179	987	1090	10	1
PUMPKIN	6217	14218	5941	6626	7660	7932	3523	2274	6123	6106	8125	33	-43

Table 2: Weighted Average Price Per Kilograms (in Tala)

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	SEPT.22.AV	JAN.23.AV	FEB.23.AV	MAR.23.AV	APR.23.AV	MAY.23.AV	JUN.23.AV	JUL.23.AV	AUG.23.AV	SEP.23.AV	% chng from	
												prev mnth	SEP 22
TARO	1.48	4.11	3.74	4.15	3.97	4.04	4.20	4.75	5.76	6.20	5.64	-9	37
BANANA	0.76	1.64	1.50	1.31	1.40	1.61	1.93	2.02	2.50	2.16	2.16	0	32
TA'AMU	2.78	12.01	22.60	5.04	16.51	20.11	13.44	22.83	13.04	14.39	14.22	-1	18
COCONUT	0.62	0.99	0.88	0.90	0.79	0.88	0.85	0.90	1.12	1.05	1.08	3	9
BREADFRUIT	0.94	1.98	1.27	1.06	1.72	2.07	3.04	3.57	5.98	2.85	2.65	-7	34
YAM	3.16	4.54	6.64	6.65	6.34	5.37	7.35	5.92	7.06	6.31	6.71	6	48
HEAD CABBAGE	5.40	8.10	13.16	13.36	13.23	17.02	14.83	15.79	15.29	11.10	9.18	-17	13
TOMATOES	9.55	11.62	20.49	22.41	23.21	25.08	27.54	27.88	31.07	19.55	17.51	-10	51
CH.CABBAGE	4.38	5.25	10.98	10.22	9.06	10.69	10.66	11.56	10.55	8.72	6.85	-21	30
CUCUMBER	2.99	4.99	6.38	6.77	6.70	7.09	7.85	8.29	8.72	7.30	6.59	-10	32
PUMPKIN	2.61	3.23	3.91	4.11	4.59	4.47	6.06	7.01	7.95	6.98	5.91	-15	83

Table 3: Value of Supplies (in Tala thousands)

PRODUCE	Total value 2014	SEPT.22.AV	JAN.23.AV	FEB.23.AV	MAR.23.AV	APR.23.AV	MAY.23.AV	JUN.23.AV	JUL.23.AV	AUG.23.AV	SEP.23.AV	% chng from	
												prev mnth	SEP 22
TARO	126.6	20.1	31.0	17.8	15.7	18.8	23.8	15.9	25.8	20.8	20.8	0	3
BANANA	25.1	1.6	3.4	3.7	1.8	2.3	2.5	1.6	2.4	2.6	4.6	78	189
TA'AMU	25.6	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.6	0.5	1.9	3.9	0.4	-89	14
COCONUT	59.3	3.3	6.9	3.7	3.0	3.1	3.3	3.6	4.6	5.0	5.9	18	77
BREADFRUIT	1.8	0.1	0.6	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.6	0.3	-55	350
YAM	4.7	1.2	0.9	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.6	1.3	2.4	3.0	2.3	-25	88
HEAD CABBAGE	44.6	6.8	7.7	5.9	6.4	8.5	11.2	18.5	12.8	17.0	11.4	-33	68
TOMATOES	21.5	6.1	2.8	2.7	4.0	3.3	4.8	2.3	5.3	6.9	5.0	-27	-17
CH.CABBAGE	5.9	1.9	0.9	1.5	2.2	1.9	3.2	2.0	2.8	2.7	2.1	-22	7
CUCUMBER	18.4	5.4	5.3	7.2	5.6	6.2	12.1	4.7	10.3	7.2	7.2	0	33
PUMPKIN	178.3	46.0	23.2	27.2	35.1	35.5	21.4	15.9	48.7	42.7	48.0	12	4
	511.8	92.8	82.9	70.8	74.5	80.2	83.9	66.6	117.1	112.2	107.9	-4	16

*on the days surveyed
@ new weights and base

Table 4: Volume Index (2014 = 100)

PRODUCE	2014 Weights	SEPT.22.AV	JAN.23.AV	FEB.23.AV	MAR.23.AV	APR.23.AV	MAY.23.AV	JUN.23.AV	JUL.23.AV	AUG.23.AV	SEP.23.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from SEP 22
TARO	0.25	65	110	57	52	62	75	44	60	45	49	10	-25
BANANA	0.05	37	85	108	49	53	50	31	37	45	81	78	119
TA'AMU	0.05	4	2	2	2	1	5	3	18	33	4	-89	-4
COCONUT	0.12	42	97	51	48	44	48	51	51	59	68	15	63
BREADFRUIT	0.004	15	244	237	49	56	105	26	11	113	54	-52	257
YAM	0.01	205	100	63	32	68	63	170	267	370	260	-30	27
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	103	72	55	60	61	93	145	103	188	154	-19	48
TOMATOES	0.04	204	54	47	67	51	68	32	66	137	113	-18	-45
CH.CABBAGE	0.01	287	61	116	184	136	230	133	209	235	235	0	-18
CUCUMBER	0.04	200	153	196	153	160	283	105	218	182	201	10	1
PUMPKIN	0.35	229	96	107	123	128	57	37	99	98	131	33	-43
	1.00	133	93	79	80	83	71	52	82	91	100	10	-24

Table 5: Price Index (2014 = 100)

PRODUCE	2014 Weights	SEPT.22.AV	JAN.23.AV	FEB.23.AV	MAR.23.AV	APR.23.AV	MAY.23.AV	JUN.23.AV	JUL.23.AV	AUG.23.AV	SEP.23.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from SEP 22
TARO	0.25	277	253	280	268	273	284	321	389	419	381	-9	37
BANANA	0.05	216	198	172	185	212	254	266	329	285	285	0	32
TA'AMU	0.05	432	813	181	594	723	484	821	469	518	512	-1	18
COCONUT	0.12	159	143	145	128	141	137	145	181	169	174	3	9
BREADFRUIT	0.004	211	135	112	183	221	324	379	636	303	282	-7	34
YAM	0.01	144	210	210	201	170	233	187	223	200	212	6	48
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	150	244	247	245	315	275	292	283	206	170	-17	13
TOMATOES	0.04	122	215	235	243	263	288	292	325	205	183	-10	51
CH.CABBAGE	0.01	120	251	233	207	244	243	264	241	199	156	-21	30
CUCUMBER	0.04	167	213	226	224	237	263	277	292	244	220	-10	32
PUMPKIN	0.35	124	150	157	176	171	232	269	305	268	226	-15	83
	1.00	121	162	134	159	175	185	218	223	193	174	-10	43

Table 6: Number of Sellers

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	SEPT.22.AV	JAN.23.AV	FEB.23.AV	MAR.23.AV	APR.23.AV	MAY.23.AV	JUN.23.AV	JUL.23.AV	AUG.23.AV	SEP.23.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from SEP 22
TARO	46	35	45	41	37	34	33	33	31	47	43	-8	25
BANANA	27	14	32	37	20	18	21	15	19	23	34	48	153
TA'AMU	7	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	3	7	1	-81	600
COCONUT	57	23	42	37	34	30	30	27	32	38	31	-19	32
BREADFRUIT	4	1	9	7	2	1	2	1	1	4	3	-37	367
YAM	5	6	3	3	1	2	2	5	7	5	6	35	7
HEAD CABBAGE	12	20	18	10	8	9	9.8	10.2	15	11	22	96	9
TOMATOES	39	48	15	16	17	13	14	10	18	24	31	28	-35
CH.CABBAGE	13	19	8	12	14	12	14	12	18	14	22	62	18
CUCUMBER	42	36	22	28	24	25	32	22	41	30	39	30	11
PUMPKIN	83	78	66	54	54	56	31	31	53	65	67	2	-14
	337	279	262	245	212	198	189	168	238	271	301	11	8

*on the days surveyed

@ new weights and base